

## Philippians 2:17-18

REJOICE & SHARE

## Philippians 2:17-18

<sup>17</sup> Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all.

<sup>18</sup> Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

## Philippians 2:17-18

- Paul is still focused on the concept of others first (2:3,4):

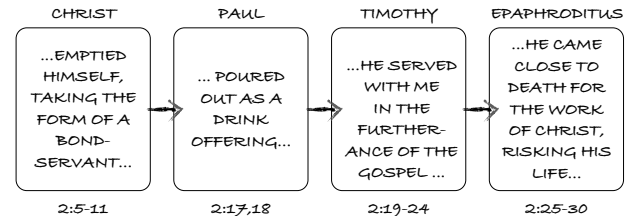
<sup>2,3</sup> Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. <sup>2,4</sup> Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

- ...and dealing with the issue of disunity among the believers in the church at Philippi (1:27-2:2)

<sup>1:27</sup> Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel...

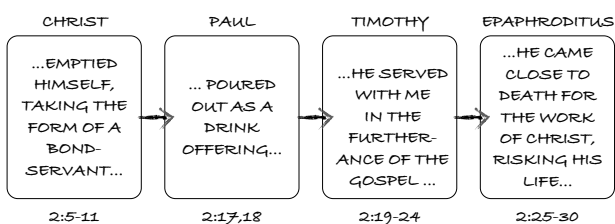
## Life of Sacrifice - Christ, Paul, Timothy & Epaphroditus

- After first giving the example of Christ (2:5-11), and explaining the application (2:12-16), he also gives as examples himself (2:17,18), Timothy (2:19-24), and Epaphroditus (2:25-30)



## Life of Sacrifice = God does the work

<sup>2:13</sup> for it is **God who is at work in you**, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.



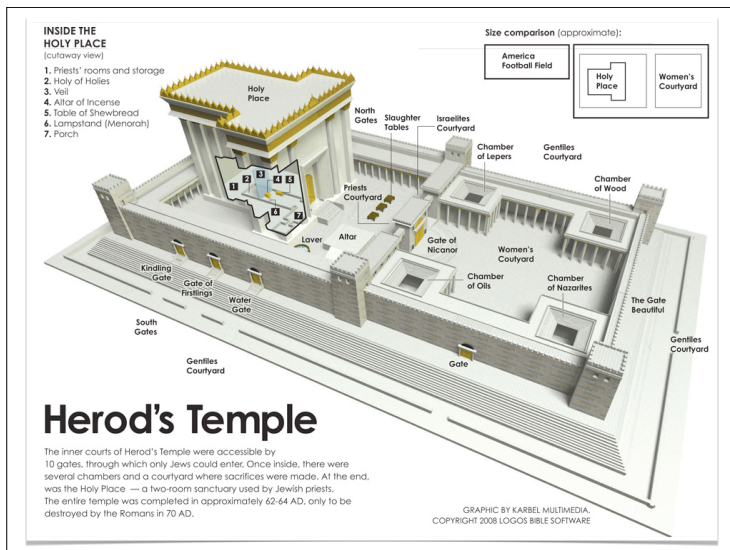
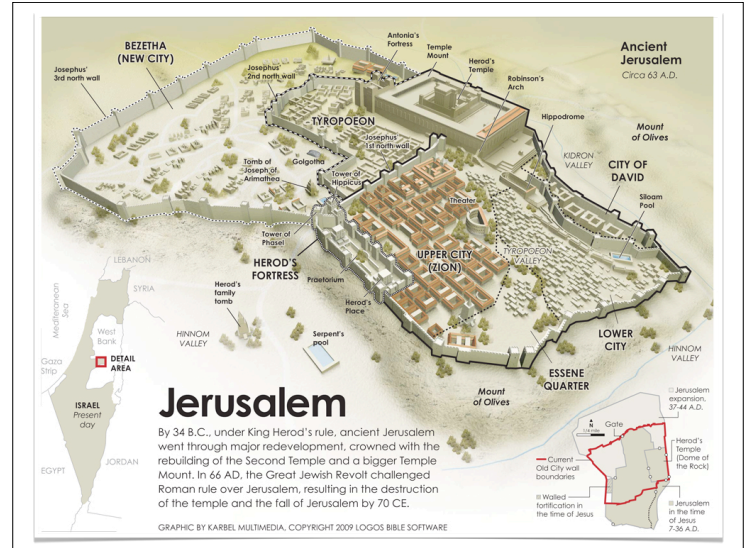
## Paul draws multiple illustrations from the altar

- Your bodies a living sacrifice (Romans 12:1)
- Paul's offering of the Gentiles (Romans 15:16)
- Paul's life a drink offering (Philippians 2:17) ←
- Paul's life a drink offering (2 Timothy 4:6)
- Gifts a fragrant offering (Philippians 4:18)
- Thanks, a sacrifice of praise (Hebrews 13:15\*)

\* Paul may not be the author, but rather someone who had an association with Paul (implied by Heb. 13:23). See also 1 Pet. 2:5

## Paul draws multiple illustrations from the altar

- Your bodies a living sacrifice (Romans 12:1)
  - Paul's offering of the Gentiles (Romans 15:16)
  - Paul's life a drink offering (Philippians 2:17) ←
  - Paul's life a drink offering (2 Timothy 4:6) ←
- 4:6 For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come.



## Paul is saying that...

- Paul is being "poured out as a drink offering"
- "upon the sacrifice and service of" the faith of the Philippian saints
- Paul is creating an illustration out of the Old Testament Levitical Law (Num 15:1-26)

## The Sacrifice & The Drink Offering

- Accompanying other offerings was the drink offering, which was taken by the priest and poured out like the blood at the foot of the altar of burnt offering. In the temple service, the drink offering was poured at the morning and evening sacrifice as a signal for the priests and Levites to begin their song of praise to God.

## The Sacrifice & The Drink Offering

"the sacrifice and service of" the **faith** of the Philippian saints

Paul's **life** being "poured out as a drink offering"

## *The Sacrifice & The Drink Offering*

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- The illustration of the sacrifice and service being the **faith** of the Philippian saints, & the drink offering which was Paul's **life**, shows that these continue to point to Christ & be satisfying & pleasing to God – more than Israel's repeated physical sacrifices ever could

## *The Sacrifice & The Drink Offering*

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- These offerings were given to the nation of Israel, not because they were effective in dealing with sin in themselves, but because these offerings pointed to the final & fully satisfying sacrifice that God Himself would make in sacrificing His dear Son (see Heb 9,10)



The altar and  
sacrifices on it  
→  
point to Christ on  
the Cross



## *Key words in Philippians 2:17-18*

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- **I am being poured out as a drink offering:** Greek *spendōmai* (spe'n-dō)
- This word is used literally in the Greek Old Testament (for example, Genesis 35:14) for pouring out a drink offering as part of the offering of a sacrifice
- Paul is using the word figuratively here, as an illustration for the saints at Philippi

## *Key words in Philippians 2:17-18*

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- **sacrifice:** Greek, *thusia* (thū-sē'-ä) = a sacrifice as in the Old Testament law, but used as a metaphor – an illustration – in Philippians 2:17, Romans 12:1, etc.
- The sacrifice in this case, was the faith of the saints at Philippi

## *Key words in Philippians 2:17-18*

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- **service:** Greek, *leitourgia* (lā-tūr-gē'-ä)
- This word is used literally for the service which the priests would perform; it is priestly service (as in Luke 1:23 of Zechariah serving in the temple)
- But all those who are believers in Christ in the church are priests (1 Peter 2:4-9)

## *Key words in Philippians 2:17-18*

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- <sup>17</sup> But even if I am being poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I **rejoice** and **share** my **joy** with you all.
- <sup>18</sup> You too, I urge you, **rejoice** in the same way and **share** your **joy** with me.

## *Charis, at the head of a family of words that occur in Philippians*

- *charis* = grace, gifting
- *eucharistéo* = give thanks (good+grace)
- *eucharistia* = giving thanks (good+gracing)
- *chara* = joy
- *chairō* = rejoice
- *sygchairō* = rejoice with
- *charizomai* = give graciously

## *Charis Family of Words in Philippians*

Chapter 1	Chapter 2	Chapter 3	Chapter 4
2 - grace	2 - joy	1 - rejoice	1 - joy
3 - thank	9 - given		4 - rejoice
4 - joy	<b>17 - rejoice</b>		4 - rejoice
7 - grace	<b>17 - joy</b>		6 - thanksgiving
18 - rejoice	<b>18 - rejoice</b>		10 - rejoiced
18 - rejoice	<b>18 - joy</b>		15 - giving
25 - joy	28 - rejoice		23 - grace
29 - given	29 - joy		

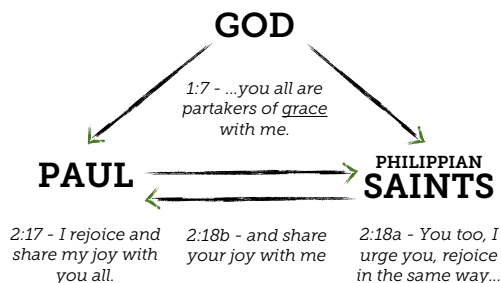
## *Key words in Philippians 2:17-18*

- **rejoice..joy:** Greek *chairō*... *sygchairō* (sün-khī'-rō)
- These words are each used in both verses 17 & 18
- Rejoice is the same root word in each case, as is joy – both are grace-given, with God as the source
- But the Greek word for joy (*sygchairō*), is a very special word...

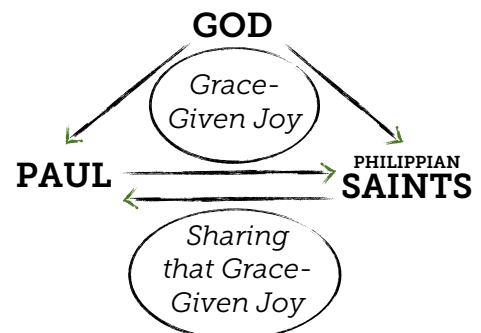
## *Key words in Philippians 2:17-18*

- *Sygchairō* means to "joy together"
- It has the same prefix that is used in Ephesians 2:6 to say that we are seated together with Christ
- This prefix places the focus on "together with", & Paul uses this prefix a lot, including when he explains our identification with Christ in His death, burial, resurrection, ascension & seating

## *Letting it Sink in!*



## *Letting it Sink in!*



*Philippians 2:17-18  
(Expanded Translation)*

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<sup>17</sup> But even if I am right now continuing to be figuratively speaking “poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrifice and service of your faith” – in which case both are pointing to Christ the ultimate and final sacrifice, and are pleasing to God in our present service, I rejoice with God’s grace-given joy within myself and share my grace-given joy mutually and together with you all, in a joy and unity that this world cannot begin to comprehend.

*Philippians 2:14-16  
(Expanded Translation)*

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<sup>18</sup> All of you too (every single one), I urge you – since it is of utmost spiritual importance - based upon who you are in Christ both individually and together, rejoice with God’s grace-given joy together within and amongst each other in the same way as you have seen in me, and likewise share your grace-given joy which you have together with and in union with me.

*Keys to take with you...*

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- Paul’s ministry was costly - not without hazard & the ultimate expense of his life
- Though not identical, yours’ will be, too
- We have no physical altar here at HHBC, because the presenting of ourselves is directly to God – we are priests as well!
- Rejoicing in the midst of real life is grace-given by God – & it is meant to be shared!